

In re Patent Application of
Michael Houck
Serial No. 10/614,405
Filed July 7, 2003

In the Claims:

Please substitute the currently amended Claims as set forth below in a complete listing of the pending claims. Struckthrough language indicates a deletion, and underlined language indicates an addition. The amendments include no new matter and are fully supported in the application as filed.

1.(currently amended) A swim fin comprising:

a foot portion having a shoe and a plurality of openings in a toe end of said foot portion; and

a web portion extending from said foot portion and having a first end, a second end, a plurality of support members having web material associated therewith, and a plurality of bosses connected with said plurality of openings; and wherein said plurality of openings comprises an array of spaced apart slots, and wherein at least one slot of said array is positioned generally perpendicular to an imaginary plane lying along a lower surface of said foot portion.

2.(cancelled)

3.(original) The swim fin of claim 1, wherein said plurality of openings comprises an array of spaced apart slots, and wherein at least first and last slots of said array are oriented at an angle to said imaginary plane.

4.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 3, wherein said plurality of bosses detachably connects with said plurality of ~~slots~~ openings.

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5.(original) The swim fin of claim 1, wherein said plurality of openings comprises an array of spaced apart slots oriented at an angle to said imaginary plane.

6.(original) The swim fin of claim 1, wherein said plurality of openings comprises elongated openings, and said plurality of bosses slidably connects with said plurality of elongated openings.

7.(original) The swim fin of claim 1, wherein said plurality of support members comprises at least one support member having at least one hinge.

8.(original) The swim fin of claim 1, wherein said web material extends between individual support members of said plurality of support members.

9.(original) The swim fin of claim 1, wherein a first and a last support member of said plurality of support members are positioned to define lateral peripheries of said web portion.

10.(original) The swim fin of claim 1, wherein said plurality of support members comprises at least one elongated support member.

11.(original) The swim fin of claim 1, wherein said plurality of support members extends from said first end to said second end of said web portion.

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12.(original) The swim fin of claim 1, wherein said plurality of support members comprises at least one elongated support member extending along a lengthwise dimension of said web portion, said support member being relatively flexible.

13.(currently amended) A swim fin comprising:

a foot portion having a shoe for securing the foot of a wearer and having a toe extending forwardly on said foot portion, said toe having a toe end defining an arch from a first to a second lateral periphery of said foot portion and having a plurality of openings spaced apart slots arrayed along an arched surface of said toe end; and

a web portion connected to said foot portion and having a first end, a second end, a plurality of support members having web material associated therewith, and a plurality of bosses positioned adjacent said first end and connected with said plurality of openings slots.

14-16.(cancelled)

17.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim ~~42~~ 13, wherein said plurality of openings comprises ~~an array of spaced apart slots positioned in generally perpendicular orientation to an imaginary plane lying along a lower surface of said foot portion, and wherein includes~~ at least first and last slots of said array are oriented at an angle ~~to said imaginary plane relative to the remaining slots of said plurality.~~

18.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim ~~46~~ 17, wherein said plurality of bosses detachably connects said plurality of slots.

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19.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 42 13, wherein said plurality of openings comprises an array of spaced apart slots positioned in generally non-perpendicular orientation to an imaginary plane lying along a lower surface of said foot portion.

20.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 42 13, wherein said plurality of openings ~~comprises elongated openings, and said plurality of bosses slidably connects with said plurality of elongated openings~~ slots.

21.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 42 13, wherein said plurality of support members comprises at least one support member having at least one hinge.

22.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 42 13, wherein said web material extends between individual support members of said plurality of support members.

23.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 42 13, wherein a first and a last support member of said plurality of support members are positioned to define lateral peripheries of said web portion.

24.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 42 13, wherein said plurality of support members comprises at least one elongated support member.

25.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 42 13, wherein said plurality of support members extends from said first end to said second end of said web portion.

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26.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim ~~42~~ 13, wherein said plurality of support members comprises at least one elongated support member extending along a lengthwise dimension of said web portion, said support member being relatively flexible.

27.(original) A swim fin comprising:

a foot portion configured to receive the foot of a wearer and having a toe end including a plurality of slot openings; and

a web portion having a plurality of elongated and relatively flexible support members, a plurality of bosses wherein each individual boss positioned at a first end of an individual support member, and web material associated with said plurality of support members, said web portion connected to said foot portion by the plurality of bosses being connected with said plurality of slot openings so that said web portion extends away from said toe end.

28.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim ~~25~~ 27, wherein said plurality of slot openings comprises openings positioned generally perpendicular to an imaginary plane lying along a lower surface of said foot portion.

29.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim ~~25~~ 27, wherein said plurality of slot openings comprises spaced apart slots wherein at least first and last slots of said plurality of slot openings are at a non-perpendicular angle to an imaginary plane lying along a lower surface of said foot portion.

30. The swim fin of claim 27, wherein said plurality of bosses detachably connects said plurality of slots.

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31.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 25 27, wherein said plurality of slot openings comprises spaced apart slots oriented at a non-perpendicular angle to an imaginary plane lying along a lower surface of said foot portion.

32.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 25 27, wherein said plurality of openings comprises elongated openings, and said plurality of bosses is connected thereto so that at least one individual boss is slidably connected with an elongated opening.

33.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 25 27, wherein said plurality of support members comprises at least one support member having at least one hinge.

34.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 25 27, wherein said web material extends between individual support members of said plurality of support members.

35.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 25 27, wherein a first and a last support member of said plurality of support members are positioned to define lateral peripheries of said web portion.

36.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 25 27, wherein said plurality of support members comprises at least one elongated support member.

37.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 25 27, wherein at least one individual support member of said plurality of support members extends from said first end to said second end of said web portion.

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38.(currently amended) The swim fin of claim 25 27, wherein said plurality of support members comprises at least one elongated support member extending along a lengthwise dimension of said web portion, said support member being relatively flexible.

39-40.(cancelled)